

CLAIMS:

1. Trailer towing device for a motor vehicle, comprising a coupling neck configured to be adjustable on a vehicle body between an inoperative position and an operative position and having a coupling ball at an end side thereof and, at the vehicle body or a member, an adjustably held socket for an electric plug connection of a trailer,

wherein the socket is arranged on the vehicle body in a resiliently prestressed manner such that the adjustable movement of the coupling neck adjusts the socket and takes the socket along to and from a moved-out operative position and a moved-in inoperative position.

2. Device according to Claim 1, wherein a pivot pin on a side of the vehicle body or member is provided to swivel the socket about a horizontal axis in a vertical direction.

3. Device according to Claim 2, wherein a spring element arranged on the pivot pin holds the socket, in the operative position, in an end position and the spring element is supported at one end thereof on a side of the member and at another end thereof, which faces away on a finger-shaped stop part of a bearing plate of the socket.

4. Device according to Claim 3, wherein the stop part is oriented away from the bearing plate and, in the end position, extends under a leg of the member operatively connected with the

vehicle body.

5. Device according to Claim 3, wherein, in the end position, the socket is arranged below the member having two spaced legs and, in the inoperative position, is swivellable between the legs into a clearance.

6. Device according to Claim 5, wherein the stop part is oriented away from the bearing plate and, in the end position, extends under a leg of the member operatively connected with the vehicle body.

7. Device according to Claim 3, wherein the coupling neck in the member is swivellable about a vertical axis from the operative position into an intermediate position below the socket situated in the end position, and, for taking up the inoperative position, the coupling neck is configured to be swivellable about a horizontal axis in the member, and wherein an interior surface of the coupling neck is situated opposite the socket which, during a further swivelling movement, extends under the coupling neck while resting thereagainst and takes the socket along into the inoperative position against tension of the spring element.

8. Device according to Claim 7, wherein, in the end position, the socket is arranged below the member having two spaced legs and, in the inoperative position, is swivellable between the legs into a clearance.

9. Device according to Claim 8, wherein, in its inoperative position, the socket, while being tensioned by the

spring element, is arranged on the coupling neck between the legs in the clearance.

10. Device according to Claim 1, wherein the coupling neck takes along the socket, which rests thereon, from the inoperative position at least into intermediate positions and, in its operative position, the coupling neck is arranged at a distance from the socket, without a connection existing between the coupling neck and the socket.